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# PERIODIC INTERMEDIATE $\beta$ -EXPANSIONS OF PISOT NUMBERS

BLAINE QUACKENBUSH<sup>(1)</sup>, TONY SAMUEL<sup>(2)</sup>, AND MATT WEST<sup>(3)</sup>

**ABSTRACT.** The subshift of finite type property (also known as the Markov property) is ubiquitous in dynamical systems and the simplest and most widely studied class of dynamical systems are  $\beta$ -shifts, namely transformations of the form  $T_{\beta,\alpha}: x \mapsto \beta x + \alpha \bmod 1$  acting on  $[-\alpha/(\beta-1), (1-\alpha)/(\beta-1)]$ , where  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  is fixed and where  $\Delta := \{(\beta, \alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^2: \beta \in (1, 2) \text{ and } 0 \leq \alpha \leq 2 - \beta\}$ . Recently, it was shown, by Li *et al.* (*Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* 147(5): 2045–2055, 2019), that the set of  $(\beta, \alpha)$  such that  $T_{\beta,\alpha}$  has the subshift of finite type property is dense in the parameter space  $\Delta$ . Here, they proposed the following question. Given a fixed  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  which is the  $n$ -th root of a Perron number, does there exist a dense set of  $\alpha$  in the fiber  $\{\beta\} \times (0, 2 - \beta)$ , so that  $T_{\beta,\alpha}$  has the subshift of finite type property?

We answer this question in the positive for a class of Pisot numbers. Further, we investigate if this question holds true when replacing the subshift of finite type property by the property of beginning sofic (that is a factor of a subshift of finite). In doing so we generalise, a classical result of Schmidt (*Bull. London Math. Soc.*, 12(4): 269–278, 1980) from the case when  $\alpha = 0$  to the case when  $\alpha \in (0, 2 - \beta)$ . That is, we examine the structure of the set of eventually periodic points of  $T_{\beta,\alpha}$  when  $\beta$  is a Pisot number and when  $\beta$  is the  $n$ -th root of a Pisot number.

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF MAIN RESULTS

**1.1. Introduction.** Since the pioneering work of Rényi [36] and Parry [33],  $\beta$ -shifts and expansions have been extensively studied and have provided practical solutions to various problems. For instance, they arise as Poincaré maps of the geometric model of Lorenz differential equations [40], and Daubechies *et al.* [14] proposed a new approach to analog-to-digital conversion using  $\beta$ -expansion. A summary of some further applications can be found in [28]. Through their study, many new phenomena have appeared, revealing a rich combinatorial and topological structure, and unexpected connections to probability theory, ergodic theory, number theory and aperiodic order [25, 31, 39]. Additionally, through understanding  $\beta$ -shifts and expansions, advances have been made in the theory of Bernoulli convolutions [1, 12].

For  $\beta > 1$  and  $x \in [0, 1/(\beta-1)]$ , a word  $(\omega_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  in the alphabet  $\{0, 1\}$  is called a  $\beta$ -expansion of  $x$  if

$$x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \omega_{k+1} \beta^{-k}.$$

When  $\beta$  is a natural number, all but a countable set of real numbers have a unique  $\beta$ -expansion. On the other hand, in [15], it was shown that, if  $\beta$  is less than the golden mean, then for all  $x \in (0, 1/(\beta-1))$ , the cardinality of the set of  $\beta$ -expansions of  $x$  is equal to the cardinality of the continuum. Siderov [38] extended this result and showed that if  $\beta$  is strictly less than two, then for Lebesgue almost all  $x \in [0, 1/(\beta-1)]$ , the cardinality of the set of  $\beta$ -expansions of  $x$  equals the cardinality of the continuum.

Through iterating the maps  $G_\beta: [0, 1/(\beta-1)] \circlearrowleft$  and  $L_\beta: [(\beta-2)/(\beta-1), 1] \circlearrowleft$  defined by

$$G_\beta(x) := \begin{cases} \beta x & \text{if } x < 1/\beta, \\ \beta x - 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad L_\beta(x) := \begin{cases} \beta x + 2 - \beta & \text{if } x \leq 1 - 1/\beta, \\ \beta x + 1 - \beta & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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one obtains subsets of  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  known as the greedy and lazy  $\beta$ -shifts, respectively, where each point  $\omega^+$  of the greedy  $\beta$ -shift and each point  $\omega^-$  of the lazy  $\beta$ -shift corresponds to a  $\beta$ -expansion of a unique point in the interval  $[0, 1/(\beta - 1)]$ . Note, if  $\omega^+$  and  $\omega^-$  are  $\beta$ -expansions of the same point, then  $\omega^+$  and  $\omega^-$  are not necessarily equal, see Example 2.2 and [2, 25, 26].

There are many ways, other than using the greedy and lazy  $\beta$ -shift, to generate a  $\beta$ -expansion of a real number. For instance, from intermediate  $\beta$ -shifts  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$ , which arise from *intermediate  $\beta$ -transformations*  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm} : [-\alpha/(\beta - 1), (1 - \alpha)/(\beta - 1)] \circlearrowleft$ , where  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta := \{(b, a) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : b \in (1, 2) \text{ and } a \in [0, 2 - \beta]\}$  and where  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  are defined as follows. Letting  $p = p_{\beta, \alpha} := (1 - \alpha)/\beta$  we set

$$T_{\beta, \alpha}^+(x) := \begin{cases} \beta x + \alpha & \text{if } x < p, \\ \beta x + \alpha - 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad T_{\beta, \alpha}^-(x) := \begin{cases} \beta x + \alpha & \text{if } x \leq p, \\ \beta x + \alpha - 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The maps  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  are equal everywhere except at  $p$  and  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^-(x) = 1 - T_{\beta, 2-\beta-\alpha}^+(1 - x)$ . Notice, when  $\alpha = 0$ , the maps  $G_{\beta}$  and  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^+$  coincide, and when  $\alpha = 2 - \beta$ , the maps  $L_{\beta}$  and  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^-$  coincide. Further, observe that  $-\alpha/(\beta - 1)$  and  $(1 - \alpha)/(\beta - 1)$  are fixed points for  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  and that the unit interval  $[0, 1]$  is a trapping region for  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$ , meaning that if  $x \in [0, 1]$ , then  $(T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm})^n(x) \in [0, 1]$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ; and if  $x \in (-\alpha/(\beta - 1), 0) \cup (1, (1 - \alpha)/(\beta - 1))$ , then there exists an  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $(T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm})^m(x) \in [0, 1]$ .

Each point in  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  is a  $\beta$ -expansion of a unique point in  $[0, 1/(\beta - 1)]$ , see (2.1), and  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha} := \Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^+ \cup \Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^-$  is a subshift, meaning that it is invariant under the (left) shift map  $\sigma$  and closed in  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , where we equip  $\{0, 1\}$  with the discrete topology and  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  with the product topology. The dynamical systems  $(\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}, \sigma)$  and  $([0, 1], T_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm})$  are topologically conjugate, that is they have ‘the same’ dynamical properties.

Subshifts which can be completely described by a finite set of forbidden words are called *subshifts of finite type* (see Section 2.1) and play an essential rôle in the study of dynamical systems. A reason why subshifts of finite type are so useful is that they have a simple representation as a finite directed graph. Thus, dynamical and combinatorial questions about the subshift can be phrased in terms of an adjacency matrix making them much more tractable. Hence, it is of interest to classify the set of  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  for which  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  a subshift of finite type. One of our aims is to give new insights towards such a classification.

Given  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$ , the unique points in  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^+$  and  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^-$  corresponding to  $p$  are called the *kneading invariants* of  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$ . It is known that the kneading invariants completely determine  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$ , see Theorem 2.3 due to [4, 19, 22], and the  $\beta$ -shift  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is a subshift of finite type if and only if the left shift of the kneading invariants are periodic, see Theorem 2.4 due to Ito and Takahashi [23], and Parry [35], for the case  $\alpha \in \{0, 2 - \beta\}$ , and Li et al. [27], for the case that  $\alpha \in (0, 2 - \beta)$ . These results immediately give us that the set of parameters in  $\Delta$  which give rise to  $\beta$ -shifts of finite type is countable. In a second article [28] by Li et al., it was shown that this set of parameters is in fact dense in  $\Delta$ . In contrast, if one considers the dynamical property of topological transitivity, then the structure of the set of  $(\beta, \alpha)$  in  $\Delta$  such that  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is topologically transitive, with respect to the left shift map, is very different to the set of  $(\beta, \alpha)$  belonging to  $\Delta$  for which  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is a subshift of finite type. It is worth noting that the former of these two sets has positive Lebesgue measure and is far from being dense in  $\Delta$ , see Theorem 5.1 due to Palmer [32] and Glendinning [16].

The results of [17] and [29] in tandem with those discussed above, yield the following.

- (i) If the  $\beta$ -shift  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is a subshift of finite type, then  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ .
- (ii) If  $\beta$  is not the positive  $n^{\text{th}}$ -root of a Perron number, for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then the set of  $\alpha$  for which the  $\beta$ -shift  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is a subshift of finite type is empty.

Indeed, for  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  to be a subshift of finite type, we require  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  to be a maximal root of a polynomial with coefficients in  $\{-1, 0, 1\}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ . This leads to the following natural question, to which we give a partial answer to in Theorem 1.1.

**Question A.** *If  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  is a positive  $n^{\text{th}}$ -root of a Perron number, for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , is the set of  $\alpha$  for which  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is a subshift of finite type dense in  $(0, 2 - \beta)$ ?*

Another class of subshifts which is of interest here are those which are factors of a subshift of finite type. Such subshifts are called *sofic*; indeed, every subshift of finite type is sofic, but not vice versa. Kalle and Steiner [24] proved that a  $\beta$ -shift  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is sofic if and only if its kneading invariants are eventually

periodic. Combining this result with those of Li *et al.* [28], one obtains that the set of  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  for which  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is sofic is dense in  $\Delta$ . This naturally leads to the study of (eventually) periodic points.

Bertrand [5] and Schmidt [37], and subsequently Boyd [6, 7, 8] and Maia [30], addressed the following question. For a fixed  $\beta$ , what are the values of  $x \in [0, 1]$  which are eventually periodic under  $G_\beta$ ? Recall, a point  $x$  is eventually periodic under  $G_\beta$  if and only if the cardinality of the set  $\{G_\beta^n(x) : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is finite. Letting  $\text{Preper}(\beta)$  denote the set of  $x$  which are eventually periodic under  $G_\beta$ , Schmidt points out that if  $x, y \in \text{Preper}(\beta) \cap [0, 1]$ , then there is no obvious reason why  $x + y \bmod 1$  should also be an element of  $\text{Preper}(\beta) \cap [0, 1]$ . In view of this it is surprising that certain  $\beta > 1$  behave exactly like integers, in the sense that if  $\beta$  is a Pisot number, then  $\text{Preper}(\beta) \cap [0, 1] = \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap [0, 1]$ . A natural question to ask here is:

**Question B.** *What is the structure of the set  $\text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha)$  of eventually periodic points under  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$ ?*

In Theorem 1.2, we show, if  $\beta$  is a Pisot number and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap (0, 2 - \beta)$ , then  $\text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha) = \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$ , where  $J_{\beta, \alpha}$  denotes the domain of  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$ . We also obtain a partial converse and in Corollary 1.3, we relate these results back to Question A.

**1.2. Statement of main results.** Our main contributions in this article and to the story of periodic  $\beta$ -expansions, is to show the following results, namely Theorems 1.1 and 1.2, and Corollaries 1.3 to 1.5.

For  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  set  $\Delta(\beta) := \{(\beta, \alpha) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0 \leq \alpha \leq 2 - \beta\}$  and recall that the *multinacci number*  $\beta_m$  of order  $m \geq 2$  is the unique real solution to the equation  $x^m = x^{m-1} + \dots + x + 1$  in the interval  $(1, 2)$ . Note, the sequence  $(\beta_m)_{m=2}^\infty$  is strictly increasing and converges to 2, and that  $\beta_2$  is the golden mean.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Fix  $m \geq 2$  an integer. The set of  $(\beta_m, \alpha)$  in  $\Delta(\beta_m)$  with  $\Omega_{\beta_m, \alpha}$  a subshift of finite type is dense in  $\Delta(\beta_m)$ .*

The main difficulty in proving Theorem 1.1 was in finding a way to compare the space  $\Omega_{\beta_m, \alpha}$  and  $\Omega_{\beta_m, \alpha'}$ , for a fixed  $m$  and  $\alpha \neq \alpha'$ . We achieved this by embedding all  $\beta_m$ -transformations into a single (multi-valued) dynamical system and carrying out our analysis in this larger system.

This result answers Question A for the class of multinacci number which belong to the wider class of algebraic numbers known as Pisôt numbers. Although many parts of our proof generalise from the class of multinacci numbers to the class of Pisot numbers, a central result (Proposition 2.7) which state that the upper kneading invariant is periodic if and only if the lower kneading invariant is periodic does not easily generalise, see Example 2.5 for an example of a point  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  where this is not the case. Here we would like to mention that Proposition 2.7 is closely related to the property known as matching, which has been extensively studied [9, 10].

In the hope of circumventing this we turn our attention to Question B and examined the set of eventually periodic points under  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap (0, 2 - \beta)$  be fixed, and let  $J_{\beta, \alpha}$  denote the domain of  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$ .*

- (i) *If  $\mathbb{Q} \cap J_{\beta, \alpha} \subseteq \text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha)$ , then  $\beta$  is either a Pisot or a Salem number.*
- (ii) *If  $\beta$  is a Pisot number, then  $\text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha) = \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$ .*

Theorem 1.2 (i) also hold when  $J_{\beta, \alpha}$  is replaced by  $[0, 1]$ , since  $[0, 1]$  is a trapping region for  $T_{\beta, \alpha}$ .

As indicated above, Theorem 1.2 generalises the results of Schmidt [37]. Indeed, our proof is motivated by that of [37], with the following crucial difference. In the setting of [37], namely when  $\alpha = 0$ , a key fact that is used is to any point  $x$  there exists a point  $y$  arbitrarily close to  $x$  and integers  $m$  and  $n$ , such that  $G_\beta^{m+k}(y)$  is arbitrarily close to zero for all  $k \in \{0, 1, \dots, m\}$ . However, this is not the case, when  $\alpha > 0$ . To circumvent this, we appeal to the kneading theory of Milnor and Thurston discussed in Section 2.2. We also remark that a similar question to Question B was considered by Baker [3]; via different methods to ours, and also Schmidt's, Theorem 1.2 (i) maybe concluded from the work of Baker and Theorem 1.2 (ii) can be seen as a strengthening of Baker's results.

Further, as a consequence of Theorem 1.2 (ii) and a result of [24], see Theorem 2.6, we obtain the following partial solution to Question A.

**Corollary 1.3.** *Let  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  be a Pisot number. The set of  $(\beta, \alpha)$  in  $\Delta(\beta)$  for which  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$  is sofic is dense in  $\Delta(\beta)$ .*

In addition to this, combining the results of Palmer [32] and Glendinning [16] as well as Parry [32, 34] with Theorems 1.1 and 1.2, we may

- (i) determine a set of  $\alpha$  which lie dense in a subset of positive Lebesgue measure of the fibre  $\Delta(\beta_m^{1/n})$ , for all integers  $m$  and  $n \geq 2$ , and
- (ii) classify the set  $\text{Preper}(\beta, \alpha)$ , in the case that  $\beta$  is the  $n$ -th root of a Pisot number and  $T_{\beta, \alpha}$  is non-transitive.

In order to state these results we require a few preliminaries.

Let  $n$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k < n$  and  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$  be given, and let  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$  be such that  $n = s \bmod k$ . For  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ , define  $V_j$  and  $r_j$  by  $jk = V_j s + r_j$ , where  $r_j \in \{0, 1, \dots, s-1\}$ , and  $h_j$  by  $V_j = h_1 + h_2 + \dots + h_j$ . For  $\beta \in (1, 2^{1/n}]$  set

$$\begin{aligned} I_{n,1}(\beta) &:= \left[ \frac{1}{\beta(\beta^{n-1} + \dots + 1)}, \frac{-\beta^{n+1} + \beta^n + 2\beta - 1}{\beta(\beta^{n-1} + \dots + 1)} \right], \text{ and} \\ I_{n,k}(\beta) &:= \left[ \frac{1 + \beta(\sum_{j=1}^s W_j - 1)}{\beta(\beta^{n-1} + \dots + 1)}, \frac{\beta(\sum_{j=1}^s W_j) - \beta^{n+1} + \beta^n + \beta - 1}{\beta(\beta^{n-1} + \dots + 1)} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (1.1)$$

where, for  $2 \leq j \leq s$ ,

$$W_j := \sum_{i=1}^{h_j} \beta^{(V_s - V_{j-1} - i)m + s - j} \quad \text{and} \quad W_1 := \sum_{i=1}^{V_1} \beta^{(V_s - i)m + s - 1} \quad (1.2)$$

see Figure 5.1 for a sketch of the intervals  $I_{n,k}(\beta)$ . If  $\beta = 2^{1/n}$ , then  $I_{n,k}(\beta)$  is a single point and, if  $\beta \in (0, 2^{1/n})$ , then  $I_{n,k}(\beta)$  is an interval of positive Lebesgue measure. Further, for a fixed  $\beta \in (1, 2)$ , in [16], it was shown that the Lebesgue measure of

$$\left\{ \alpha \in (0, 2 - \sqrt[l]{\beta}) : k \in \{1, \dots, l\} \text{ with } \gcd(l, k) = 1 \text{ and } \alpha \in I_{l,k}(\sqrt[l]{\beta}) \right\}$$

remains bounded away from zero as  $l \in \mathbb{N}$  tends to infinity.

**Corollary 1.4.** *Let  $m$  and  $n \geq 2$  denote two natural numbers, and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $k < n$  and  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ . There exists a dense set of  $\alpha$  in  $I_{n,k}(\sqrt[n]{\beta_m})$  with  $\Omega_{\sqrt[n]{\beta_m}, \alpha}$  a subshift of finite type. Moreover, if  $\beta$  is a Pisot number, then there exists a dense set of  $\alpha$  in  $I_{n,k}(\sqrt[n]{\beta})$  with  $\Omega_{\sqrt[n]{\beta}, \alpha}$  sofic.*

Before stating our final corollary we require one last preliminary. For  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$ , Parry [34] constructed an absolutely continuous  $T_{\beta, \alpha}$ -invariant probability measure, which we denote by  $\nu_{\beta, \alpha}$ , and in [18], it was verified that the density  $h_{\beta, \alpha}$  is always non-negative. Hofbauer [19, 20, 21] showed that this measure is ergodic and maximal, and a direct consequence of [32] and [16] is that  $\nu_{\beta, \alpha}$  has support equal to  $[0, 1]$  if and only if  $T_{\beta, \alpha}$  is topologically transitive.

**Corollary 1.5.** *Let  $n$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\beta$  denote a Pisot number and let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap [0, 2 - \beta]$ . Defining  $\alpha_{n,k} = \alpha_{n,k}(\beta, \alpha) \in I_{n,k}(\sqrt[n]{\beta})$  by*

$$\alpha_{n,1} := \frac{((1 - \alpha)(1 - \sqrt[n]{\beta^{-1}}) - 1)(1 - \sqrt[n]{\beta})}{\beta - 1} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_{n,k} := \frac{((1 - \alpha)(1 - \sqrt[n]{\beta^{-1}}) - \sum_{j=1}^s W_j)(1 - \sqrt[n]{\beta})}{\beta - 1},$$

where  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$  satisfies  $n = s \bmod k$  and  $W_j$  is as in (1.2), and setting  $\Phi(x) := (\sqrt[n]{\beta} - 1)x + \alpha_{n,k}$ , we have

$$\text{Preper}^\pm(\sqrt[n]{\beta}, \alpha_{n,k}) \cap \text{supp}(\nu_{\sqrt[n]{\beta}, \alpha_{n,k}}) = \bigcup_{i=0}^{n-1} (T_{\sqrt[n]{\beta}, \alpha_{n,k}}^\pm)^i(\Phi(\mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap [0, 1])).$$

**1.3. Outline.** In Section 2 we give necessary definitions and results we require in our proofs of Theorems 1.1 and 1.2. Sections 3 and 4 are dedicated to proving Theorems 1.1 and 1.2, respectively. We conclude with Section 5. The aim of this final section is to provide an overview of the results of [16, 32, 34, 35] which in combination with our results (Theorems 1.1 and 1.2) yields Corollaries 1.4 and 1.5.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

We divide this section into three parts: Sections 2.1 and 2.2 in which we discuss aspects of symbolic dynamics and  $\beta$ -shifts; and Section 2.3 where we review results concerning a related class of interval maps, namely uniform Lorenz maps, which are in essence scaled versions of  $\beta$ -transformations.

**2.1. Subshifts.** We equip the set  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  of infinite words with the topology induced by the ultra metric  $\mathcal{D}: \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \times \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$\mathcal{D}(\omega, \nu) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \omega = \nu, \\ 2^{-|\omega \wedge \nu|+1} & \text{if } \omega \neq \nu, \end{cases}$$

where  $|\omega \wedge \nu| := \min\{i \in \mathbb{N}: \omega_i \neq \nu_i\}$ , for  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots)$  and  $\nu = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \dots)$ . This topology coincides with the product topology on  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , where  $\{0, 1\}$  is endowed with the discrete topology. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\omega \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$ , we set  $\omega|_n = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$  and call  $n$  the *length* of  $\omega|_n$  denoted by  $|\omega|_n$ . We define the (*left*) *shift*  $\sigma$  on  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  by  $\sigma(\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots) := (\omega_2, \omega_3, \dots)$ . A closed subspace  $\Omega$  of  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  is a *subshift* if  $\Omega$  is invariant under  $\sigma$ , namely  $\sigma(\Omega) \subseteq \Omega$ . Given a subshift  $\Omega$  and a natural number  $n$ , we set

$$\Omega|_n := \{(\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n) \in \{0, 1\}^n : \text{there exists } \omega \in \Omega \text{ with } \omega|_n = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n)\}$$

and denote by  $\Omega^* := \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \Omega|_n$  the collection of all finite words. A subshift  $\Omega$  is said to be of *finite type* if there exists a finite set  $F$  of finite words such that

- (i)  $\nu|_n \notin F$  for all  $\nu \in \Omega$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
- (ii) if  $\nu \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \setminus \Omega$ , then there exist integers  $n > 0$  and  $m \geq 0$  such that  $\sigma^m(\nu)|_n \in F$ .

The set  $F$  is often referred to as the *set of forbidden words* of  $\Omega$ . If  $\Omega \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  is a factor of a subshift of finite type, then it is called *sofic*.

A word  $\omega$  is *periodic* with period  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , if  $(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) = (\omega_{(m-1)n+1}, \dots, \omega_{mn})$  for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ; in which case we write  $\omega = (\overline{\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n})$ . The smallest such  $n$  is called the *period* of  $\omega$ . Similarly, a word  $\omega$  is called *pre-periodic* with period  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , if there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $(\omega_{k+1}, \dots, \omega_{k+n}) = (\omega_{k+(m-1)n+1}, \dots, \omega_{k+mn})$  for all  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ ; in which case we write  $\omega = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_k, \overline{\omega_{k+1}, \dots, \omega_{k+n}})$ . As with periodic words, the smallest such  $n$  is called the *period* of  $\omega$ .

**2.2. Intermediate  $\beta$ -shifts and expansions.** Let  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  be fixed and set  $p = p_{\beta, \alpha} := (1 - \alpha)/\beta$ . Let  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}: J_{\beta, \alpha} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  be defined by

$$\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}(x) := (\omega_1^{\pm}(x), \omega_2^{\pm}(x), \dots),$$

where, for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\omega_n^+(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (T_{\beta, \alpha}^+)^{n-1}(x) < p, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_n^-(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (T_{\beta, \alpha}^-)^{n-1}(x) \leq p, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We refer to  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  as *expansion maps*. The image of  $J_{\beta, \alpha}$  under  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  is denoted by  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$ , and we set  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha} := \Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^+ \cup \Omega_{\beta, \alpha}^-$ . We call  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^+(p)$  the *upper* and  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^-(p)$  the *lower kneading invariant* of  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$ .

**Remark 2.1.** Let  $\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots)$  and  $\nu = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \dots)$  respectively denote the upper and the lower kneading invariant of  $\Omega_{\beta, \alpha}$ . By definition,  $\omega_1 = \nu_2 = 0$  and  $\omega_2 = \nu_1 = 1$ . It can also be shown, for  $k \geq 2$  an integer, that  $(\omega_k, \omega_{k+1}, \dots) = (\overline{1})$  if and only if  $\alpha = 2 - \beta$ , and that  $(\nu_k, \nu_{k+1}, \dots) = (\overline{0})$  if and only if  $\alpha = 0$ .

The inverse map  $\pi_{\beta, \alpha}: \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow J_{\beta, \alpha}$  of  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^{\pm}$  is called the *projection map* and defined by

$$\pi_{\beta, \alpha}(\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots) := \alpha(1 - \beta)^{-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i \beta^{-i}.$$



An important property of  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm$  and  $\pi_{\beta,\alpha}$  is that the following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\Omega_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \Omega_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm \\
\pi_{\beta,\alpha} \downarrow & \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm & \uparrow \pi_{\beta,\alpha} \\
J_{\beta,\alpha} & \xrightarrow{T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm} & J_{\beta,\alpha}
\end{array} \tag{2.1}$$

This result is readily verifiable from the definitions of the maps involved, see [4]. From this, one may deduce, for  $x \in [0, 1 + 1/(\beta - 1)]$ , that the words  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm(x - \alpha/(\beta - 1))$  are  $\beta$ -expansions of  $x$ . It is worth noting that the expansion of a point  $x$  given by  $\tau_{\beta,0}^+(x)$ , namely the greedy  $\beta$ -expansion of  $x$ , is lexicographically the largest  $\beta$ -expansion of  $x$ , and the expansion given by  $\tau_{\beta,2-\beta}^-(x - (2 - \beta)/(\beta - 1))$ , namely the lazy  $\beta$ -expansion of  $x$ , is lexicographically the smallest  $\beta$ -expansion of  $x$ , see [15]. Further, for Lebesgue almost all  $x$ , the expansion  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm(x - \alpha/(\beta - 1))$  lie in between the greedy and the lazy  $\beta$ -expansions of  $x$ , with respect to the lexicographic ordering, see [13]. There also exist  $\beta$  such that the only  $\beta$ -expansion of one is the greedy  $\beta$ -expansion, such  $\beta$  are called *univoque*, see [26] for further details.

**Example 2.2.** For  $\beta = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$  and  $x = 1$ , we have the following.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\tau_{\beta,0}^+(x) = (1, 1, \overline{0}) & \text{greedy golden mean expansion of 1} \\
\tau_{\beta,1-\beta/2}^\pm(x - (1 - \beta/2)/(\beta - 1)) = (\overline{1}, \overline{0}) & \text{symmetric golden mean expansion of 1} \\
\tau_{\beta,2-\beta}^-(x - (2 - \beta)/(\beta - 1)) = (0, \overline{1}) & \text{lazy golden mean expansion of 1}
\end{array}$$

For  $\beta$  the largest positive real root of  $z^{14} - 2z^{13} + z^{11} - z^{10} - z^7 + z^6 - z^4 + z^3 - z + 1$ , and  $x = 1$ ,

$$\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm(x - \alpha/(\beta - 1)) = (1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, \overline{1}, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0),$$

for all  $\alpha \in [0, 2 - \beta]$ . In [2], it was shown, in this latter case, that  $\beta$  is the smallest univoque Pisot number.

Next, we recall a result which shows that  $\Omega_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm$  is completely determined its kneading invariants.

**Theorem 2.3.** [4, 19, 22] *Letting  $\prec, \preceq, \succ, \succeq$  denote the lexicographic orderings on  $\{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N}$ , we have that*

$$\begin{aligned}
\Omega_{\beta,\alpha}^+ &= \left\{ \omega \in \{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N} : \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \sigma^n(\omega) \prec \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^-(p) \text{ or } \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^+(p) \preceq \sigma^n(\omega) \right\}, \\
\Omega_{\beta,\alpha}^- &= \left\{ \omega \in \{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N} : \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \sigma^n(\omega) \preceq \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^-(p) \text{ or } \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^+(p) \prec \sigma^n(\omega) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

A necessary and sufficient condition on the kneading invariants of an intermediate  $\beta$ -shift for determining when it is a subshift of finite type is as follows.

**Theorem 2.4** ([23, 27, 33]). *For  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$ , the intermediate shift  $\Omega_{\beta,\alpha}$  is a subshift of finite type if and only if  $\sigma(\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm(p))$  are both periodic.*

With the above at hand, it is natural to ask if  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 2 - \beta)$ , then is true that  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^+(p)$  is periodic if and only if  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^-(p)$  is periodic and vice versa? In Proposition 2.7 we show that this is indeed the case when  $\beta$  is a multinacci number. However, there exist values of  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  for which this does not hold, as the following counterexample demonstrates. Thus, it would be interesting to investigate if there exists other values of  $\beta \in (1, 2)$ , for which  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^+(p)$  is periodic if and only if  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^-(p)$ . In fact this idea is very closely linked to the concept of matching which has recently attracted much attention.

**Example 2.5.** Letting  $\beta = \sqrt{\beta_2}$  and  $\alpha = 2 - \beta_2$ , we have that  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^+(p) = (\overline{1}, \overline{0}, \overline{0}, \overline{1})$  and  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^-(p) = (0, 1, \overline{1}, \overline{0})$ . Recall,  $\beta_2$  denotes the second multinacci number, namely the golden mean.

Kalle and Steiner [24] developed an analogous result to Theorem 2.4 for determining when a  $\beta$ -shift is sofic; this allows us to conclude Corollary 1.3 from Theorem 1.2. Their result states the following.

**Theorem 2.6** ([24]). *The subshift  $\Omega_{\beta,\alpha}$  is sofic if and only if  $\tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm(p)$  are both pre-periodic.*

Our next proposition (Proposition 2.7) plays a key rôle in the proof of Theorem 1.1. We note that after the writing of this paper we became aware of [9] in which a proof of this result also appears. However, for completeness we include a short justification for which we require an auxiliary lemma (Lemma 2.8).

**Proposition 2.7.** Fix an integer  $m \geq 2$  and let  $\alpha \in \Delta(\beta_m) \setminus \{0, 2 - \beta_n\}$ . The kneading invariant  $\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-(p)$  is periodic if and only if the kneading invariant  $\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+(p)$  is periodic.

**Lemma 2.8.** Under the assumptions of Proposition 2.7, we have

$$\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+(p)|_{m+1} = (\underbrace{1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0}_{m\text{-times}}) \quad \text{and} \quad \tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-(p)|_{m+1} = (\underbrace{0, 1, 1, \dots, 1, 1}_{m\text{-times}}).$$

*Proof.* We present the proof for  $\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-(p)$ ; the proof for  $\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+(p)$  follows analogously. From Remark 2.1 we know  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^-(p)|_2 = (0, 1)$ , and, since  $\beta_m \geq \beta_2$ , by definition  $(T_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-)^2(p) = \beta_m + \alpha - 1 > p$ . Suppose, for some  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, m-1\}$ , that

$$\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-(p)|_{j+1} = (\underbrace{0, 1, 1, \dots, 1, 1}_{j\text{-times}}).$$

Let  $S_0(x) := \beta_m x + \alpha$  and  $S_1(x) := \beta_m x + \alpha - 1$ . It suffices to show  $\beta(T_{\beta, \alpha}^-)^{j+1}(p) + \alpha = \beta(S_1^j \circ S_0(p)) + \alpha$  is strictly greater than 1. To this end, observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(S_1^j \circ S_0(p)) + \alpha &= \beta_m^{j+1} + \alpha(\beta_m^j + \beta_m^{j-1} + \dots + \beta_m + 1) - \beta_m^j - \beta_m^{j-1} - \dots - \beta_m \\ &> \beta_m^{j+1} - \beta_m^j - \beta_m^{j-1} - \dots - \beta_m \\ &\geq \beta_{j+1}^{j+1} - \beta_{j+1}^j - \beta_{j+1}^{j-1} - \dots - \beta_{j+1} = 1. \end{aligned}$$

The first line follows from an elementary induction argument and the definition of  $S_0^-$  and  $S_1^-$ ; the second line holds since  $\alpha > 0$ ; the last and penultimate lines are a consequence of the facts  $(\beta_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  is an increasing sequence and  $\beta_{j+1}$  is the unique real zero of the polynomial  $x^{j+1} - x^j - \dots - x - 1$  in  $(1, 2)$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Proposition 2.7.* By Lemma 2.8, we have

$$\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+(p)|_{m+1} = (\underbrace{1, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0}_{m\text{-times}}) \quad \text{and} \quad \tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-(p)|_{m+1} = (\underbrace{0, 1, 1, \dots, 1, 1}_{m\text{-times}}).$$

Letting  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  be as in the proof of Lemma 2.8, an elementary calculation yields the following.

$$\begin{aligned} (T_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+)^{m+1}(p) &= S_0^m \circ S_1(p) = \alpha(\beta_m^{m-1} + \beta_m^{m-2} + \dots + \beta_m + 1) = \alpha\beta_m^m \\ (T_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-)^{m+1}(p) &= S_1^m \circ S_0(p) = \alpha(\beta_m^{m-1} + \beta_m^{m-2} + \dots + \beta_m + 1) \\ &\quad + (\beta_m^m - \beta_m^{m-1} - \beta_m^{m-2} - \dots - \beta_m - 1) \\ &= \alpha(\beta_m^{m-1} + \beta_m^{m-2} + \dots + \beta_m + 1) = \alpha\beta_m^m \end{aligned}$$

Namely,  $(T_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+)^{m+1}(p) = (T_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-)^{m+1}(p)$ . Thus,  $\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^-(p)$  is periodic if and only if  $\tau_{\beta_m, \alpha}^+(p)$  is periodic.  $\square$

**2.3. Uniform Lorenz maps.** A class of maps closely related to intermediate  $\beta$ -transformations, and which have been well studied, are Lorenz maps. They are expanding interval maps with a single discontinuity. Here, we consider the sub-class of *uniform Lorenz maps*  $U_{\beta, p}^\pm: [0, 1] \circlearrowleft$  defined, for  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  and  $q \in [1 - 1/\beta, 1/\beta]$ , by

$$U_{\beta, q}^+(x) := \begin{cases} \beta x & \text{if } x < q, \\ \beta x + 1 - \beta & \text{if } x \geq q. \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad U_{\beta, q}^-(x) := \begin{cases} \beta x & \text{if } x \leq q, \\ \beta x + 1 - \beta & \text{if } x > q, \end{cases}$$

Let us now describe the relation between uniform Lorenz maps and  $\beta$ -transformations. For this we require the following concept, which determines when two dynamical systems are ‘the same’. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  denote two topological spaces and let  $f: X \circlearrowleft$  and  $g: Y \circlearrowleft$ . We say that  $f$  and  $g$  are *topologically conjugate* if there exists a homeomorphism  $h: X \rightarrow Y$  such that  $h \circ f = g \circ h$ . The maps  $f$  and  $g$  are called *topologically semi-conjugate* if  $h$  is a continuous surjection.

An elementary calculation shows that  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$  and  $U_{\beta, 1+(\alpha-1)/\beta}^\pm$  are topologically conjugate, where the conjugating homeomorphism is given by  $x \mapsto (\beta - 1)(x + \alpha/(\beta - 1))$ .

Similar to  $\beta$ -transformations, Lorenz maps have associated expansion maps  $\mu_{\beta, q}^\pm: [0, 1] \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N}$  defined by  $\mu_{\beta, q}^\pm(x) := (\nu_1^\pm(x), \nu_2^\pm(x), \dots)$ , where, for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$\nu_n^+(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (U_{\beta, q}^+)^{n-1}(x) < q, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \nu_n^-(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (U_{\beta, q}^-)^{n-1}(x) \leq q, \\ 1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$



as well as an associated projection map  $\rho_\beta: \{0, 1\}^\mathbb{N} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  given by  $\rho_\beta(\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots) := (\beta - 1) \sum_{i=1}^\infty \omega_i \beta^{-i}$ . As in the setting of Section 2.2 we have that the following diagram commutes.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mu_{\beta,q}^\pm([0, 1]) & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & \mu_{\beta,q}^\pm([0, 1]) \\ \rho_\beta \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \mu_{\beta,q}^\pm \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right) & & \mu_{\beta,q}^\pm \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \rho_\beta \end{array} \right) \\ [0, 1] & \xrightarrow{U_{\beta,q}^\pm} & [0, 1] \end{array}$$

Additionally, we have the following monotonicity result.

**Proposition 2.9.** [4, 11] *Let  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  be fixed. The map  $x \mapsto \mu_{\beta,x}^+(x)$  is right-continuous and strictly increasing. Similarly,  $x \mapsto \mu_{\beta,x}^-(x)$  is left-continuous and strictly increasing. Moreover, points of discontinuity, for both maps, only occur at periodic points.*

The main benefit of using uniform Lorenz maps stems from the idea that every  $\beta$ -trnsformation has a realisation as a uniform Lorenz map, as discussed above, and that every uniform Lorenz map is defined on  $[0, 1]$  and has the same fixed points. Thus, it allows one to easily compare the kneading invariants of systems with the same expansion rate, namely  $\beta$ , but with different translates, namely  $\alpha$ .

### 3. FIBER DENSENESS OF INTERMEDIATE $\beta$ -SHIFTS OF FINITE TYPE – PROOF OF THEOREM 1.1 –

The aim of this section is to prove Theorem 1.1. We divide the proof into two parts. We show that the sets  $\text{Per}^\pm(\beta) := \{\alpha \in \Delta(\beta) : \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm(p) \text{ is periodic}\}$ , for a given  $\beta \in (1, 2)$ , are dense in  $\Delta(\beta)$  with respect to the Euclidean norm, and with the help of Proposition 2.7, we have that  $\tau_{\beta_k,\alpha}^+$  is periodic if and only if  $\tau_{\beta_k,\alpha}^-$  is periodic. Theorem 1.1 follows by combining these two results together with Theorem 2.4.

*Proof of Theorem 1.1.* Fix  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  with  $\alpha \notin \{0, 2 - \beta\}$ . Let  $q = 1 + (\alpha - 1)/\beta$ , so that  $U_{\beta,q}^\pm$  is topologically conjugate to  $T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm$ . It is sufficient to show that there exists  $q_s^\pm$  sufficiently close to  $q$  in  $((\beta - 1)/\beta, 1/\beta)$  with  $\mu_{\beta,q_s}^\pm(q_s^\pm)$  periodic. We present the proof for  $\mu_{\beta,q_s}^-(q_s^-)$ ; the proof for  $\mu_{\beta,q_s}^+(q_s^+)$  follows analogously. To this end, suppose  $\mu_{\beta,q}^-(q)$  is not periodic, otherwise set  $q_s^- = q$ . Fix  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and set

$$\delta_k^{(q)} := \min\{\beta^{-k} |(U_{\beta,q}^-)^l(q) - q| : l \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}\}.$$

Observe  $\mu_{\beta,q'}^-(q')|_{k+1} = \mu_{\beta,q}^-(q)|_{k+1}$ , for all  $q' \in [q - \delta_k^{(q)}, q]$ . Let  $j > k$  be the maximal integer such that

$$\mu_{\beta,q-\delta_k^{(q)}}^-(q - \delta_k^{(q)})|_j = \mu_{\beta,q}^-(q)|_j, \quad (\mu_{\beta,q-\delta_k^{(q)}}^-(q - \delta_k^{(q)}))_{j+1} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (\mu_{\beta,q}^-(q))_{j+1} = 1.$$

The existence of  $j$  is given by Proposition 2.9. Let  $A \subseteq [q - \delta_k, q]$  be defined by

$$A := \{x \in [q - \delta_k^{(q)}, q] : \mu_{\beta,x}^-(x)|_j = \mu_{\beta,q}^-(q)|_j \text{ and } (\mu_{\beta,x}^-(x))_{j+1} = 0\}.$$

Proposition 2.9 ensures that  $A$  is a non-empty, connected and closed, in particular that  $q_s^- := \sup(A) \in A$ . By way of contradiction, suppose that  $\mu_{\beta,q_s}^-(q_s^-)$  is not periodic, in which case,

$$(U_{\beta,q_s}^-)^j(q_s^-) < q_s^-.$$

By Proposition 2.9, there exists  $\delta_{j+1}^{(q_s)} > 0$  so that, if  $q' \in (q_s, q_s + \delta_{j+1}^{(q_s)})$ , then  $\mu_{\beta,q_s}^-(q_s^-)|_{j+1} = \mu_{\beta,q'}^-(q')|_{j+1}$ . This implies  $q' \in A$ ; contradicting the fact  $q_s^-$  is the supremum of  $A$ . Therefore, since  $\delta_k^{(q)} < \beta^{-k}$ , given  $q \in (1 - 1/\beta, 1/\beta)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exist  $q_s^- \in (1 - 1/\beta, q)$  and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $q - q_s^- \leq \delta_k^{(q)} < \epsilon$  and  $\mu_{\beta,q_s}^\pm(q_s^-)$  periodic.

Proposition 2.7 implies that  $\text{Per}^+(\beta_n) = \text{Per}^-(\beta_n)$ , for all integers  $n \geq 2$ . Thus, we have that the set  $\{\alpha \in \Delta(\beta) : \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^+(p) \text{ and } \tau_{\beta,\alpha}^-(p) \text{ are periodic}\}$  is dense in  $\Delta(\beta)$  with respect to the Euclidean norm. With this at hand, an application of Theorem 2.4 completes the proof.  $\square$

4. PERIODIC EXPANSIONS OF PISOT AND SALEM NUMBERS  
– PROOF OF THEOREM 1.2 –

Throughout this section, let  $\beta \in (1, 2)$  denote an algebraic integer with minimal polynomial

$$P(z) := \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} a_i z^i + z^d,$$

where  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_d \in \mathbb{Z}$ . In which case,  $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$  can be written in the form

$$x = q^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} p_i \beta^i, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{d-1} \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ . We assume that the integer  $q$  in (4.1) is as small as possible yielding a unique representation for  $x$ . Let  $\hat{p}_1, \hat{p}_2, \dots, \hat{p}_{d-1} \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $\hat{q} \in \mathbb{N}$  denote the corresponding terms for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ :

$$\alpha = \hat{q}^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \hat{p}_i \beta^i. \quad (4.2)$$

Fix  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap (0, 2 - \beta)$  and  $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$  with the forms given in (4.1) and (4.2). For  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\omega_i^\pm(x)$  respectively denote the  $i$ -th letter of  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm(x)$ . From the commutative diagram given in (2.1), we have, for  $n$  a non-negative integer, that

$$\rho^{(n, \pm)}(x) := \beta^n \left( x - \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^\pm(x) \beta^{-i} + \alpha \sum_{i=1}^n \beta^{-i} \right) = (T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm)^n(x). \quad (4.3)$$

**Lemma 4.1.** *For  $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , there exists a unique vector  $(r_1^{(n, \pm)}(x), \dots, r_d^{(n, \pm)}(x))$  in  $\mathbb{Z}^d$  with*

$$\rho^{(n, \pm)}(x) = (\hat{q}q)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^d r_i^{(n, \pm)}(x) \beta^{-i}. \quad (4.4)$$

For ease of notation, and when the dependency on the point  $x$  is clear, we write  $\mathbf{r}^{(n, \pm)} = (r_1^{(n, \pm)}, \dots, r_d^{(n, \pm)})$  in replace of  $\mathbf{r}^{(n, \pm)}(x) = (r_1^{(n, \pm)}(x), \dots, r_d^{(n, \pm)}(x))$ .

*Proof.* By (4.1), (4.2) and (4.3) we have that

$$\rho^{(1, \pm)}(x) = q^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^d p_{i-1} \beta^i - \omega_1^\pm(x) + \alpha = (\hat{q}q)^{-1} \left( \hat{q} \sum_{i=1}^d p_{i-1} \beta^i - \hat{q}q \omega_1^\pm(x) + q \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \hat{p}_i \beta^i \right).$$

The result for  $n = 1$  follows from the fact that  $q$  and  $\hat{q}$  are fixed and that  $B := \{\beta, \beta^2, \dots, \beta^d\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ . An inductive argument yields the general result.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.** *For  $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $\gamma$  a Galois conjugate of  $\beta$ ,*

$$\gamma^n \left( q^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} p_i \gamma^i - \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^\pm(x) \gamma^{-i} + \hat{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma^{-i} \right) = (\hat{q}q)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^d r_i^{(n, \pm)} \gamma^{-i}, \quad (4.5)$$

where  $\hat{\alpha} = \hat{q}^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \hat{p}_i \gamma^i$ . Moreover, if  $|\gamma| > 1$  and if  $x \in \text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha) \cap \mathbb{Q}(\beta)$ , then

$$q^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} p_i \gamma^i = \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{1 - \gamma} + \sum_{i=1}^\infty \omega_i^\pm(x) \gamma^{-i}. \quad (4.6)$$

*Proof.* Combining (4.1), (4.3) and (4.4), we obtain that  $\beta$  satisfies the polynomial equation

$$z^{n+d} \left( \hat{q} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} p_i z^i - \hat{q}q \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^\pm(x) z^{-i} + q \left( \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} \hat{p}_j z^j \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^n z^{-i} \right) \right) = \sum_{i=1}^d r_i^{(n, \pm)} z^{d-i} \quad (4.7)$$

for all  $n \geq 0$ . Since  $\gamma$  is a Galois conjugate of  $\beta$ , it is also a solution to (4.7), which proves (4.5). If  $|\gamma| > 1$  and if  $x \in \text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha)$ , then the cardinality of the set  $\{\mathbf{r}^{(n, \pm)} : n \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$  is finite, and thus

$$c^\pm := \sup\{\max\{|r_k^{(n, \pm)}| : k \in \{1, \dots, d\}\} : n \in \mathbb{N}\} < \infty. \quad (4.8)$$

Combining this with (4.5) we obtain

$$\left| q^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} p_i \gamma^i - \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^\pm(x) \gamma^{-i} + \hat{\alpha} \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma^{-i} \right| \leq (\hat{q}q)^{-1} c^\pm d |\gamma|^{-n}.$$

Letting  $n$  tend to infinity in the above equation yields (4.6).  $\square$

With the above two lemmas at hand we are ready to prove Theorem 1.2 (i).

*Proof of Theorem 1.2 (i).* We show the result for  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^+$  noting that the proof is analogous for  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^-$ . By way of contradiction, suppose there exists a Galois conjugate  $\gamma \neq \beta$  of  $\beta$  with  $|\gamma| > 1$ . Let  $x \in [\alpha, \beta + \alpha - 1]$  and let  $a, b \in J_{\beta, \alpha}$  be such that  $a < b$  and  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^+(a) = T_{\beta, \alpha}^+(b) = x$ . Set  $\delta := |\beta^{-1} - \gamma^{-1}|$  and let  $\eta := \max\{\beta^{-1}, |\gamma|^{-1}\}$ . Choose  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $\eta^{m+1}/(1 - \eta) < \delta/2$ .

Let  $a', b' \in \mathbb{Q} \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$  with  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^+(a)|_m = \tau_{\beta, \alpha}^+(a')|_m$  and  $\tau_{\beta, \alpha}^+(b)|_m = \tau_{\beta, \alpha}^+(b')|_m$ ; the existence of  $a'$  and  $b'$  is guaranteed by Proposition 2.9. By (2.1) and how  $a'$  and  $b'$  have been chosen,  $(\omega_2^+(a'), \dots, \omega_m^+(a')) = (\omega_2^+(b'), \dots, \omega_m^+(b'))$ ,  $\omega_1^+(a') = 0$  and  $\omega_1^+(b') = 1$ . An application of Lemma 4.2 in tandem with (4.1), our hypothesis and the fact that  $\gamma$  is a Galois conjugate of  $\beta$ , yields the following.

$$\begin{aligned} a' &= \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(a') \beta^{-i} = \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{1 - \gamma} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(a') \gamma^{-i} \\ b' &= \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \beta^{-i} = \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{1 - \gamma} + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \gamma^{-i} \end{aligned}$$

From this we obtain the following chain of inequalities.

$$\begin{aligned} \delta = |\beta^{-1} - \gamma^{-1}| &= \left| \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta} + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \beta^{-i} - \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{1 - \gamma} - \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \gamma^{-i} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \frac{\alpha}{1 - \beta} + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \beta^{-i} - a' \right| + \left| a' - \frac{\hat{\alpha}}{1 - \gamma} - \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \gamma^{-i} \right| \\ &\leq \left| \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \beta^{-i} - \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(a') \beta^{-i} \right| + \left| \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(a') \gamma^{-i} - \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \omega_i^+(b') \gamma^{-i} \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=m+1}^{\infty} |\omega_i^+(b') - \omega_i^+(a')| \beta^{-i} + \sum_{i=m+1}^{\infty} |\omega_i^+(b') - \omega_i^+(a')| |\gamma|^{-i} \leq 2\eta^{m+1} (1 - \eta)^{-1} < \delta \end{aligned}$$

This yields a contradiction, and concludes the proof.  $\square$

For the proof of Theorem 1.2 (ii) we require an additional lemma.

**Lemma 4.3.** *Set  $\beta = \gamma_1$  and let  $\gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_d$  denote the Galois conjugates of  $\beta$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap J_{\beta, \alpha}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$  set*

$$\rho_i^{(n, \pm)}(x) := q^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^d r_k^{(n, \pm)}(x) \gamma_i^{-k}. \quad (4.9)$$

*The following are equivalent.*

- (i)  $x \in \text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha)$
- (ii)  $\max\{\sup\{|\rho_i^{(n, \pm)}(x)| : n \in \mathbb{N}_0\} : i \in \{1, \dots, d\}\} < \infty$
- (iii)  $\sup\{\max\{|r_k^{(n, \pm)}(x)| : k \in \{1, \dots, d\}\} : n \in \mathbb{N}_0\} < \infty$

*Proof.* A similar argument to that given in the proof of Lemma 4.2, where we obtained (4.8), shows (i) implies (iii). That (iii) implies (ii) follows from (4.9). To complete the proof we show (ii) implies (i). To this end, assume (ii) and set

$$\mathbf{v}^{(n,\pm)}(x) := q \begin{pmatrix} \rho_1^{(n,\pm)}(x) \\ \vdots \\ \rho_d^{(n,\pm)}(x) \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1^{-1} & \gamma_1^{-2} & \cdots & \gamma_1^{-d} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \gamma_d^{-1} & \gamma_d^{-2} & \cdots & \gamma_d^{-d} \end{pmatrix}}_{=: M_\beta} \begin{pmatrix} r_1^{(n,\pm)}(x) \\ \vdots \\ r_d^{(n,\pm)}(x) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (4.10)$$

By assumption, there exists  $c^\pm \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $\|\mathbf{v}^{(n,\pm)}(x)\| \leq c^\pm$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Since the Galois group of a finite Galois extension acts transitively on the roots of any minimal polynomial,  $M_\beta$  is a non-singular matrix. This implies there exists  $k^\pm \in \mathbb{Z}$  with  $\|\mathbf{r}^{(n,\pm)}(x)\| \leq k^\pm$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Hence, as  $\mathbf{r}^{(n,\pm)}(x) \in \mathbb{Z}^d$  it follows that  $\mathbf{r}^{(m,\pm)}(x) = \mathbf{r}^{(n,\pm)}(x)$ , and therefore  $\rho_i^{(m,\pm)}(x) = \rho_i^{(n,\pm)}(x)$ , for some  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  with  $m \neq n$  and all  $i \in \{1, \dots, d\}$ . An application of Lemma 4.1 and (4.3) yields the required result.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 1.2 (ii).* Fix  $x \in \mathbb{Q}(\beta) \cap [0, 1]$  with the form given in (4.1). As in Lemma 4.3, set  $\gamma_1 = \beta$  and let  $\gamma_2, \dots, \gamma_d$  denote the Galois conjugates of  $\beta$ . Since, by assumption,  $\beta$  is a Pisot number, it follows  $\eta := \max\{|\gamma_j| : j \in \{2, \dots, d\}\} < 1$ . For  $j \in \{2, 3, \dots, d\}$ , let

$$\hat{\alpha}_j := \hat{q}^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} \hat{p}_i \gamma_j^i,$$

and set  $\tilde{\alpha} := \max\{|\hat{\alpha}_j| : j \in \{2, 3, \dots, d\}\}$ . By (4.7) and (4.9) we have

$$|\rho_i^{(n,\pm)}(x)| \leq q^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} |p_j| \eta^{n+j} + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (1 + \tilde{\alpha}) \eta^{n+i}$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $i \in \{2, \dots, d\}$ . This in combination with (4.3) yields that Lemma 4.3 (ii) is satisfied, and thus  $x \in \text{Preper}^\pm(\beta, \alpha)$ .  $\square$

## 5. PERIODIC EXPANSIONS OF PISOT AND SALEM NUMBERS – PROOF OF COROLLARIES 1.3 AND 1.4 –

The aim of this final section is to provide an overview of the results of [16, 32, 34, 35] which in combination with our results (Theorems 1.1 and 1.2) yield Corollaries 1.4 and 1.5.

An interval map  $T: [a, b] \circlearrowleft$  is called *topologically transitive* if for all open subintervals  $J$  there exists  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\bigcup_{k=0}^m T^k(J) \supseteq (a, b).$$

For  $\beta \in (1, 2)$ , Parry [35] showed  $T_{\beta, 1-\beta/2}^\pm$  is topologically transitive if and only if  $\beta > \sqrt{2}$ . This result was later generalised by Palmer [32] and Glendinning [16] who classified the set of points  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  with  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$  is topologically transitive.

In order to state the results of Parry, Palmer and Glendinning we require the following. Let  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $1 \leq k < n$  and  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ , and let  $I_{n,k}(\beta)$  be as in (1.1). Define  $D_{n,k}$  to be the set

$$\{(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta : \beta \in (1, 2^{1/n}] \text{ and } \alpha \in I_{n,k}(\beta)\},$$

see Figure 5.1 for an illustration of the intervals  $I_{n,k}$  and the regions  $D_{n,k}$ .

**Theorem 5.1** ([16, 32, 35]). *Let  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$ . The tuple  $(\beta, \alpha) \in D_{n,k}$ , for some  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $1 \leq k < n$  and  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ , if and only if  $T_{\beta, \alpha}^\pm$  is not topologically transitive.*

A main ingredient in the proof of this result is to show that for given  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $1 \leq k < n$  and  $\gcd(n, k) = 1$ , there exists a one-to-one correspondence between points in  $\Delta$  and points in  $D_{n,k}$ . More precisely, on the one hand, given  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$ , there exists a unique  $a \in I_{n,k}(\sqrt[n]{\beta})$ , namely  $a = \alpha_{n,k}(\beta, \alpha)$ , see

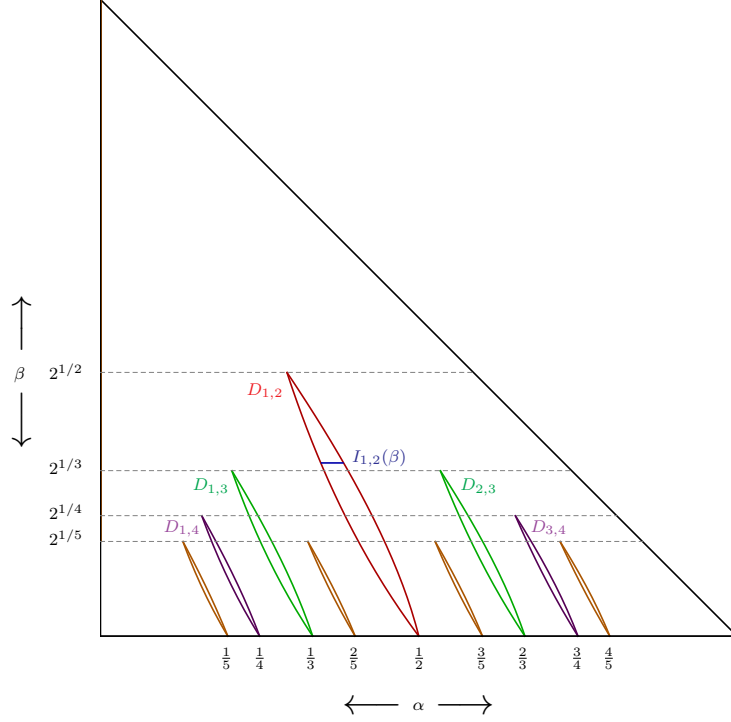


FIGURE 5.1. Plot of the parameter space  $\Delta$ , together with boundary of the regions  $D_{1,2}$ ,  $D_{1,3}$ ,  $D_{2,3}$ ,  $D_{1,4}$ ,  $D_{3,4}$ ,  $D_{1,5}$ ,  $D_{2,5}$ ,  $D_{3,5}$ ,  $D_{4,5}$ ,  $D_{1,6}$  and  $D_{5,6}$ . Further, in blue, a sketch of the interval  $I_{1,2}(\beta)$ , where  $\beta$  is the square root of the golden mean, is given.

Corollary 1.5, such that,  $T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm|_{[0,1]}$  and  $(T_{\sqrt[n]{\beta},a}^\pm)^n|_{[a, \sqrt[n]{\beta}+a-1]}$  are topologically conjugate with conjugating map  $\Phi(x) := (\sqrt[n]{\beta} - 1)x + a$ ; on the other hand, given  $(\beta, \alpha) \in D_{n,k}$ , there exists  $a \in [0, 2 - \beta^n]$ , namely

$$a = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{-\alpha(\beta^n - 1) + \beta - 1}{(\beta - 1)(1 - \beta^{-1})} & \text{if } k = 1, \\ 1 - \frac{-\alpha(\beta^n - 1) + (\beta - 1) \sum_{j=1}^s W_j}{(\beta - 1)(1 - \beta^{-1})} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

such that  $(T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm)^n|_{[\alpha, \beta + \alpha - 1]}$  and  $T_{\beta^n,a}^\pm$  are topologically conjugate, where the conjugating map is given by  $x \mapsto (\beta - 1)^{-1}(x - \alpha)$  and where  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, k - 1\}$  satisfies  $n = s \bmod k$  and  $W_j$  is as defined in (1.2). Moreover, in the case that  $\beta \neq 2^{1/n}$  and  $(\beta, \alpha) \in D_{n,k}$

$$\overline{(T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm)^i([0, 1])} \cap \overline{(T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm)^j([0, 1])} = \emptyset, \quad (5.1)$$

for all  $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with  $i \neq j$ ; in the case that  $\beta \neq 2^{1/n}$  and  $\alpha$  is the singleton in  $I_{n,k}(\beta)$  the intersection in (5.1) is a singleton when  $n \neq 2$  and a two point set when  $n = 2$ . These observations in tandem with Theorem 1.1 and Corollary 1.3 directly yield Corollary 1.4. In order to prove Corollary 1.5, we require one final result.

**Theorem 5.2** ([32, 34]). *Let  $(\beta, \alpha) \in \Delta$  be fixed. The absolutely continuous measure  $\nu_{\beta,\alpha}$  with density*

$$h_{\beta,\alpha} := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \beta^{-n} \left( \mathbf{1}_{[0, (T_{\beta,\alpha}^+)^n(1))} - \mathbf{1}_{[0, (T_{\beta,\alpha}^+)^n(0))} \right)$$

*is invariant under  $T^\pm$ . Moreover, the support of  $\nu_{\beta,\alpha}$  equals  $[0, 1]$  and only if  $(\beta, \alpha) \notin D_{n,k}$  or if  $\beta = 2^{1/n}$  and  $\alpha$  is the single point of  $I_{n,k}(2^{1/n})$ , for some  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $k < n$  and  $\gcd(k, n) = 1$ . Further, in the case that  $\beta \neq 2^{1/n}$  and  $(\beta, \alpha) \in D_{n,k}$ , the support of  $\nu_{\beta,\alpha}$  is contained in the disjoint union of intervals,*

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^n \overline{(T_{\beta,\alpha}^\pm)^i([0, 1])}.$$

Corollary 1.5 follows from this result in tandem with the observations directly proceeding it together with Theorem 1.2.

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